(a) are the Government aware that in Cranganur there are single land-holdings, the ruin to each of which by sea-erosion has amounted to more than a lakh of rupees;

(b) what relief has the Government accorded to cases mentioned in (a):

(c) what relief do they intend to award them;

(d) do the Government consider that the construction of roads, recently begun, like the Pallippuram-Azhikkal one and similar other items of Public Works are of a more important and urgent nature than saving precious land from sea-erosion?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) No protective works were undertaken by Government. The Member is referred to the Press Communique, dated 26th May 1921 pubtished in the Cochin Government Gazette, dated 15th Edavam 1096.

(c) Government are making further investigations to ascertain whether it is possible to stop the erosions.

(d) It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—(b) May I know a brief summary of the contents of the Government publication?

President.—You can't have a brief summary.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—(c). May I know the probable date when the investigation should be completed?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I cannot give the probable date. The Government have asked for the views of the Harbour Engineer.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know what reply the Diwan gave to the deputation that waited on him on the subject?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon:—Notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—(d). Am I to understand that the people of Azhikkode and Pallippuram were going to rack and ruin for lack of roads while precious Agricultural lands were consumed by the sea-erosions in Cranganur?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is a matter of opinion. The people of Pallippuram and Azhikkode are experiencing loss for lack of roads and their material prosperity has been affected.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Can you give a comparative statement of the considerable loss due to sea-erosions and lack of roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—You cannot compare the two.

Karuvannur Canal.

174. Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

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(a) whether the new Karuvannur canal, which is now under construction, is of uniform width ;

(b) if the answer to question (a) is in the negative, what is its width from the origin of the canal down to the bridge, on the Trichur-Irinjalakkuda road and from there down on the mouth of the canal ,

(c) what is the sort of soil along which the canal is constructed, *viz.*, it is rocky, sandy or loose soil ;

(d) what is the breadth of the space acquired by Government on either side of the canal throughout ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) The canal that is opened in the high ground *i. e.*, from paddy lands in the Muriyad lake to paddy lands in the Murkanad kayal is of uniform bottom width of 17'-6". In the paddy lands where water is allowed to spread the width is less. In the Muriyad lake the bottom width of the approach channel in the paddy lands is 7'-6" and in the Murkanad kayal is about 10 feet.

(b) The width from the edge of the Muriyad lake to the edge of the Murkanad kayal is uniform and it is 17'-6". This portion only can be considered as the canal as in other places water is allowed to spread. The bridge is situated on the high ground.

(c) The soil that is met with is mostly laterite rock except at the tail end where the subsoil is sand mixed with ordinary earth.

(d) The breadth of lands acquired varies from 20 feet to 100 feet according to the depth of cutting required.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Sir, will the Government be pleased to explain with reference to question (a) whether the canal ends at the paddy fields ? What I want to know is whether the canal at the terminus is less in breadth.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The canal is less in breadth, but the discharging capacity of it is more.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Whether there is any likelihood of erosions being made at the other side of the canal ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—No.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Is it not a fact that the canal coming to the end will hold a more quantity of water and then if it is not wider whether there is any likelihood of erosions being made ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The canal may be narrow, but the water is wider.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—(e). It is said that the land at the terminus is sand mixed with clay. What precau-

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tion has the Government taken to see that no erosion is made on either sides of the canal because the soil is sand.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The velocity of water in the canal is reduced to such an extent that no erosions can take place.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Were there erosions this year?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There were no erosions, but there was some slight damage due to the extraordinary flood.

175. Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they are aware that at the terminus of the Karuvannur canal several acres of arable land have been rendered uncultivable by sand being deposited on them;

(b) whether they have received from the aggrieved cultivators any complaints;

(c) if so, whether they have taken any action on the same?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) About 6 acres of paddy lands were partially silted up.

(b) Yes.

(c) The extension of the canal to avoid further silting up is engaging the attention of the Chief Engineer.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—(b). Is it alleged in the complaint that the sand deposited was partly due to the negligence of the canal directors who put the soil on either sides of the canal and it was washed away during the flood?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There was an allegation and we are inquiring into the matter.

Shallow waters—Kadakkarai.

176. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they are aware of the great inconvenience to the travelling public due to shallow waters at Kadakkarai and how long they have been knowing it;

(b) what they intend to do in the matter?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) The question was brought to the notice of Government in 1930.

(b) The matter was fully gone into and as a result, it is suggested that an experimental channel may be dredged. This will be done when funds become available.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—(b). Will you please give me the probable date?

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